

Source Water Assessment and Protection Update

Information for DHS staff and LPA counties on the California Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection Program (DWSAP)

Issue 7

October 2002

Assessment Deadlines

Water systems doing their own assessments:
December 31, 2002

LPA Counties:
December 31, 2002

DHS Districts:
May 31, 2003
(Includes any assessments not completed by water systems and LPA Counties) ❖

Security of Source Location Data

Since the events of September 11, 2001, DHS has eliminated public access to the locations (latitude and longitude) of public drinking water sources.

This information, which used to be given out under Public Records Act requests, is no longer provided to private parties. It is only provided to public agencies that sign a confidentiality agreement that prohibits the agency from sharing the information with anyone.

This has impacted our plans to make the assessments available to the public. DHS and UCD-ICE are currently working on ways to allow access to the assessment information while ensuring the security of the source location data.

This does not, however, eliminate the need or requirement for DHS to make the assessments available to the public or to obtain accurate GPS readings for all public water system sources. ❖

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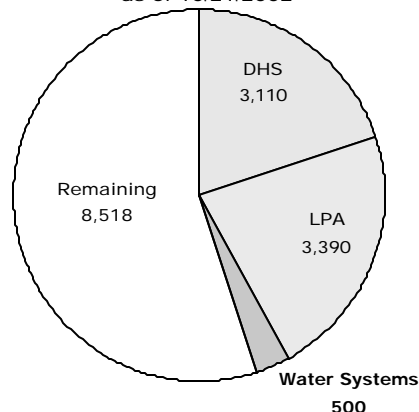
Assessment Progress

With the release of TurboSWAP, the number of completed assessments continues to increase rapidly.

A list of completed assessments is posted on the DHS website. Note that this list includes only assessments submitted via TurboSWAP and a few others reported to Leah Walker.

Future versions of TurboSWAP will allow you to record assessments that were completed by other methods. When this is available, all reporting on assessments will occur through TurboSWAP.

Assessments Completed
as of 10/21/2002



A complete list of assessment and GPS progress for DHS districts and LPA counties is shown on the UCD-ICE website at <http://swap.ice.ucdavis.edu> ❖

Acronyms used in this Newsletter

DHS – California Department of Health Services, Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management

DMS – GPS Data Management System (data dictionary software for GPS units developed by UCD-ICE)

GIS – Geographic Information System

GPS – Global Positioning System

LPA – Local Primacy Agency (a county that has been delegated primacy for the drinking water regulatory program for small water systems)

UCD-ICE – University of California, Davis - Information Center for the Environment (DHS contractor for GIS, GPS and other data tools).

EPA – US Environmental Protection Agency



LPA INFORMATION

LPA DWSAP Contracts

DHS is currently reviewing all LPA DWSAP contracts. Contract amendments are being prepared for LPAs that have funds remaining from previous fiscal years, and the funds are being added to the FY 2002-2003 budgets.

All LPA DWSAP contracts end on December 31, 2002. The contracts will NOT be extended beyond this date. All expenses to be charged to the contracts must be spent by this date. ❖

LPA DWSAP Invoices

All invoices for FY 2001-2002 are due NOW! LPA counties must make sure that all DWSAP invoices include the county name, address, and the invoice number. Remember to include a narrative description of work accomplished, and attach receipts for equipment purchases. ❖

Submit all DWSAP invoices and contract changes to:

Department of Health Services
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
Attention: **SANDRA VALVERDE**
P.O. Box 942732
Sacramento, CA 94234-7320

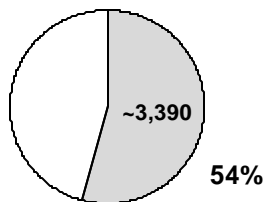
LPA Data

DHS has been working with LPA counties to resolve water system inventory problems. This includes reconciling source names and numbers, source and system status, and treatment plant records.

Veronica Ramirez in the DHS Drinking Water Program headquarters has successfully worked with several counties on this effort. If you are an LPA county and notice that your list of systems and sources in TurboSWAP or the GPS DMS doesn't seem to be correct, contact Veronica at vramirez@dhs.ca.gov for assistance. ❖

LPA Assessment Progress

LPA Assessments Completed
as of 10/21/2002



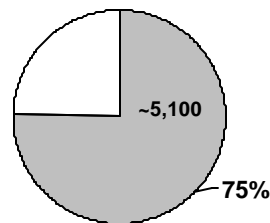
Highlights:

Congratulations to Calaveras County for completing all assessments!

LPAs **nearly** finished with Assessments (>80%): Kings, Stanislaus, Shasta, Madera, Santa Barbara, Merced, Yuba, and San Joaquin. ❖

LPA GPS Progress

LPA GPS Completed as of 10/21/2002



Highlights:

Congratulations to Calaveras and Kings Counties for completing all GPS!

LPAs nearly finished with GPS

(>90%):

El Dorado, Imperial (by DHS), Mono, Nevada, Placer, San Bernardino, and Yolo.

(>80%):

Alpine, Butte, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Shasta, Stanislaus, Tehama (by DHS), Tulare, and Yuba. ❖

DWSAP Assistance

For questions or comments regarding this Update, contact Leah Walker at lwalker2@dhs.ca.gov or 707-576-2295.

For questions regarding TurboSWAP, send an e-mail message to ddwemhot@dhs.ca.gov and send a copy to Leah Walker.

For questions regarding GPS, send an e-mail message to Sky Harrison at sky@ice.ucdavis.edu.



GPS is NOT a DWSAP Requirement

It's an EPA Data Requirement

Accurate source locations are mandated by US EPA as part of drinking water program primacy requirements. The DHS schedule to comply with this requirement has the same deadline as completion of assessments (May 31, 2003).

DHS established a GPS method specification in order to comply with US EPA data requirements and to fulfill other program needs. The DHS method specification is "GPS with a mapping grade (or better) GPS unit with differential correction."

For DWSAP assessments, you need to know the location of the source so that you can prepare an accurate map and do the assessment. Due to the overlap with DWSAP, DHS incorporated the GPS work into the LPA DWSAP contracts, and into the contract work with UCD-ICE. DHS loaned GPS units to LPAs or allowed them to purchase units with DWSAP funds. ❖

GPS Coordinates by Public Water Systems

Several water systems have obtained GPS coordinates for their drinking water sources. DHS would like to receive these coordinates **if they were obtained by methods that comply with the DHS GPS method specification**. The DHS method specification is "GPS with a mapping grade (or better) GPS unit with differential correction." (See article above)

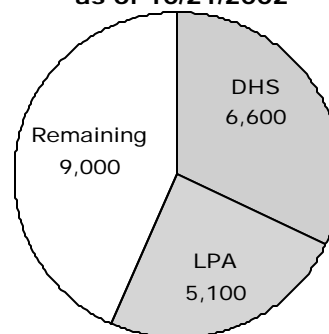
If a public water system has GPS data for their sources that meets the DHS GPS method specification, then you may contact Leah Walker at lwalker2@dhs.ca.gov to discuss format and transmission of the data.

A revised Source Location Form will be made available only to those water systems that have GPS data meeting DHS requirements. All other submittals of GPS coordinates will not be accepted.

DHS is obtaining GPS coordinates for water systems under DHS jurisdiction, except for those water systems that submit GPS data meeting DHS requirements. Because GPS work is considered a normal regulatory activity, large water systems are billed for the DHS time. ❖

GPS Progress

GPS Completed
as of 10/21/2002



How is Progress Determined?

GPS:

Records to GPS

The source records in the DHS PICME database that require GPS coordinates are: active and standby sources, and active and standby treatment plants in active systems. These records are determined from the latest PICME report sent to UCD-ICE.

Records GPS'd

This includes all GPS data sent to and processed by UCD-ICE as of a particular date, that meet the above criteria for Records to GPS. This GPS data includes information submitted via the GPS Data Management System and some information submitted via the Source Location Form.

*** Submitted GPS data that does not meet the above criteria are not included ***

$$\% \text{ Complete} = (\text{Records GPS'd} / \text{Records to GPS}) * 100$$

Assessments:

Records to Assess

The records to be assessed includes active sources in active systems. These records are determined from the latest PICME report sent to UCD-ICE.

Records Assessed

This value is the number of assessments submitted as of a particular date, that meet the above criteria for Records to Assess. This assessment data includes information submitted via TurboSWAP and some information submitted via alternative methods.

*** Submitted Assessment data that does not meet the above criteria are not included ***

$$\% \text{ Complete} = (\text{Records Assessed} / \text{Records to Assess}) * 100 \quad \text{❖}$$



Surface Water TurboSWAP Coming Soon!

Will Include Procedure to Record Sources Assessed by Other Methods

A version of TurboSWAP that includes procedures for surface water sources will be coming out in November. When it is available, current TurboSWAP users will be able to download a new executable file from the UCD-ICE website. Watch for an announcement that the new version is ready, and the procedures to obtain and use it.

Until the new version is available, you can continue to work on surface water assessments by using the surface water forms and procedures posted on the DHS website at <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/dwsap/SW/SWindex.htm>.

The next version of TurboSWAP will also include an option to enter summary information for assessments that were not done with TurboSWAP. The user will enter descriptions of the system, source, delineation of protection zones, vulnerability, and contacts. This allows the assessment summary to be submitted to the TurboSWAP database. Please note, this is intended for assessments that were done by methods that are more detailed or complex than TurboSWAP. DHS prefers that assessments done with DHS standard procedures be done in TurboSWAP. ❖

Surface Water Maps

UCD-ICE is creating assessment maps for each surface water source. This is being done for two purposes. The first is to have watershed and intake maps for each surface water source that can be attached to assessments. Most water systems with surface water sources can use the maps that were part of watershed sanitary surveys, but maps were needed for some of the small water systems.

The second purpose for the surface water maps is to create a statewide GIS layer of watersheds for public water systems. This GIS layer will be of vital importance to state and local agencies as they work on pollution prevention and remediation programs.

DHS district offices and LPA counties are asked to review the surface water maps. Contact Leah Walker at walker2@dhs.ca.gov if you note any problems with the maps. The last maps to be prepared will be for springs, intakes located along man-made canals or diversions, and sources considered to be groundwater under the influence of surface water, due to the complexity of these watersheds.

The maps may be viewed by authorized personnel at the UCD-ICE website (<http://swap.ice.ucdavis.edu/>). ❖

Mapping Tool Features

UCD-ICE has released an updated and enhanced Mapping Tool. It is available to authorized users at the UCD-ICE website (<http://swap.ice.ucdavis.edu/>). Before using the new Mapping Tool, make sure to review the "Mapping Tool Instructions", which is a PowerPoint file posted on the UCD-ICE site. New features include:

- Ability to display leaking underground fuel tank (LUFT) sites, landfills, and abandoned mines (layers obtained from other agencies)
- Query feature to find out more about the LUFT, landfill, and mine sites (to find out more about a particular LUFT site, use the GeoTracker website)
- Ability to display delineations for multiple sources at the same time
- Improved "Report" feature
- "User Set Point" feature to delineate zones for a source not shown in the Mapping Tool

Remember to use the "Report" feature to display a map and associated calculations. Save the Report as an *.mht file (web archive single file) and attach it to your submittal via TurboSWAP. ❖

New on the DWSAP Website!

Check the DHS DWSAP website regularly (<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/dwsap/DWSAPindex.htm>) for new guidance, forms, and updated information. Items that have been posted recently include:

- The Well Data Sheet is in a new location. The button in your TurboSWAP program may not work correctly because the Well Data Sheet was moved. Look under "Data Sheets" on the website.
- Forms and procedures for assessments for small water systems (ground water and surface water). These forms are useful for new sources.
- List of completed assessments (sorted by county) (new list posted weekly).
- Data sheets for springs and horizontal wells.
- A link to the US EPA website for source water protection Best Management Practices (an excellent PowerPoint file.)❖

"District" Name and Number in TurboSWAP

Water systems (or other entities) that have requested TurboSWAP have a special "district" name and number assigned to them. This allows us to keep track of who performed the assessment, and to display that entity name and number on the TurboSWAP reports. This does not change the DHS district assigned to the water system. ❖

